

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 04741 211451Z
ACTION ARA-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6198

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 4741

FOR UNDERSECRETARY NEWSOM

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAU SHUM, OAS, AR
SUBJECT ARGENTINA INVITES OAS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION VISIT

REF: BUENOS AIRES 4736

1. ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER OSCAR MONTES FORMALLY
INVITED THE OAS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (IAHRC) BY
DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO VISIT ARGENTINE TO LOOK INTO
"THE LEGAL-JURIDICAL CONDITIONS CURRENTLY EXISTING
IN THE COUNTRY," ACCORDING TO CLARIN JUNE 21.
QUOTING 'RELIABLE SOURCES,' CLARIN SAYS
THAT THE IAHRC WAS PLEASED WITH THE GOA INITIATIVE
WHICH WOULD BE CONSIDERED A "SPECIAL VISIT," HAVING
"NOTHING TO DO" WITH ANOTHER VISIT TO ARGENTINA
ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE IAHRC THROUGH ITS REGULAR
CHANNELS. (COMMENT: THE "ORIGINALLY PROPOSED"
VISIT PRESUMABLY REFERS TO AN IAHRC REQUEST MADE
LAST FEBRUARY FOR GOA CONSIDERATION OF A VISIT.
WE UNDERSTAND THAT GOA WISHED ITS INVITATION TO
BE CONSIDERED AS A GOA INITIATIVE AND NOT MERELY
A REPLY TO THE IAHRC REQUEST.)

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 04741 211451Z

2. THE OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY TELAM QUOTED THE
NOTE AS SAYING, IN PART: "IT IS UNDERSTOOD AS
NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE THAT THE BEST FULFILL-
MENT OF RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES, IN THE CASBF
OF OBSERVATION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS,
FALL TO THE COMMISSION AND TO EACH GOVERNMENT...
IN THAT CASE, (THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT) IS

PLEASED BY THE WILLINGNESS SHOWN BY THE COMMISSION
TO ENTER INTO A SUBSTANTIVE DIALOGUE ON THE CURRENT
ARGENTINE SITUATION, WHICH IS CHARACTERIZED BY
THE APPLICATION OF EXCEPTIONAL MEASURES NECESSARY
FOR THE LEGITIMATE RIGHT OF DEFENSE IN THE FACE
OF TERRORIST ATTACKS... IN THIS CONTEXT AND
WITHIN THE BASIC PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN THE
CHARTER OF THE OAS, MY GOVERNMENT OFFERS TO THE
COMMISSION THE OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK INTO THE
MATTER THROUGH A VISIT TO ARGENTINA WITH THE
PURPOSE OF VERIFYING THE LEGAL-JURIDICIAL
CONDITIONS EXISTING IN THE COUNTRY."
CASTRO

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